

**MINUTES OF MEETING AT THE FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE, HELD ON FRIDAY 11  
APRIL 2014 AT 11.00 AM.**

**Present**

Mrs Philippa Foster Back	Chair
Ms Kate Bazeley	Secretary
Mr Henry Burgess	Polar Regions Department, FCO / Government British Antarctic Territory
Dr Kim Crosbie	<i>Ad hoc member</i>
Dr Suman Chowdhury	<i>Ad hoc member</i>
Dr Adrian Fox	British Antarctic Survey
Mr Pat Geelan	<i>Expert Member</i>
Mr Bob Headland	Royal Geographical Society
Ms Jane Rumble	Polar Regions Department, FCO / Government British Antarctic Territory
Dr Mike Thomson	<i>Expert Member</i>
Mr Andy Willett	UK Hydrographic Office

**1. Apologies for absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Prof Mike Bentley (*ad hoc member*), Ms Catherine Cheetham (Permanent Committee on Geographical Names), Prof Julian Dowdeswell (Scott Polar Research Institute), Dr John Shears (British Antarctic Survey) and Mr Paul Woodman (*Expert Member*).

The Chairperson welcomed Mr Andy Willett to the Committee.

**2. Minutes of the last meeting, held on 11 October 2013**

The minutes, incorporating members' comments on the draft minutes, were approved by the Chairman.

**3. Matters arising from the minutes of the last meeting**

**i) Busen Region and Barff Peninsula place-naming**

The new BAS MAGIC map of the Busen Region, South Georgia has now been published and includes the new names approved by the Committee at its last meeting. Dr Fox provided

copies for each of the Committee members to view. Ms Rumble informed the Committee that the Norwegian Saami were very pleased with their place-name. Dr Fox suggested that a framed copy of the new map could be presented to the Saami at their upcoming meeting. The Committee thanked MAGIC and Bob Burton for their work on the map.

The Secretary informed the Committee that there will be a similar map produced for the Barff Peninsula, which should also generate new place-name proposals for the next meeting.

**ii) Geosciences magazine article**

Dr Chowdhury reported that the place-names article that he is writing for Geosciences magazine will now be published in the October issue.

**iii) Geographical magazine article**

The place-names article written by Dr Fox and the Secretary was published in *Geographical* in the December issue. It received a letter of response that was published in the following magazine, along with Dr Fox's reply.

**iv) Place-names presentation**

The Secretary gave a presentation on Antarctic place-names at Rothera in February, based on a similar presentation that Dr Fox had previously given. Dr Fox will combine this talk and a presentation from the Chairman to create a generic place-names talk that can be used by Committee members as a template presentation.

**v) Re-appointment of *ad hoc* members**

Prof Bentley and Dr Chowdhury have come to the end of their first term as *ad hoc* members of the Committee and have both formally accepted the offer of re-appointment for a second term. The Chairman reminded the Committee that *ad hoc* members serve a maximum of two terms on the Committee.

**4. Secretary's report**

The Secretary's report was noted.

**5. Place-names decisions**

It was confirmed that all of the place-names recommended at the October 2013 APC meeting had been approved.

**6. ACAN response**

There were no comments on the proposals from US-ACAN.

**7. New Place-name proposal – Fallières Coast APC(14)03**

The Committee discussed whether the proposed feature was definitely known to be a safe landing site and whether the generic term ‘point’ was appropriate in this instance. It was agreed that this feature was not significant enough to require a place-name, so the proposal was not approved.

The Committee noted that there were several large, unnamed features in this area that could perhaps require naming in the future, if it was deemed necessary. It was noted that there are two local themes in the area that could be applied; famous glaciologists and BAS field assistants.

**8. New Place-name proposal – Loubet Coast APC(14)04**

The Committee noted that the proposed glaciers appeared to be tributaries of the Wilkinson Glacier, and therefore did not appear to require names. However the two ridges dividing the glaciers seemed significant features that needed naming, so the names ‘Lane Ridge’ and ‘Hodge Ridge’ were approved.

**9. New Place-name proposal –South Georgia APC(14)05**

This proposal has been generated through the increased numbers of tourists undertaking the Shackleton crossing of South Georgia and imposing their own, unofficial names onto key features on the route. The proposal therefore aims to standardise the names and make them official, ahead of the Shackleton 100 celebrations.

Breakwind Gap	Approved.
Dome Nunatak	Not approved. The Committee felt that using ‘dome’ as the descriptor was not appropriate as it is a generic term. The name Caird Nunatak was approved, in commemoration of the whaler the <i>James Caird</i> , which Shackleton used on his epic voyage from Elephant Island to South Georgia in 1916, and in conjunction with James Nunatak, which is at the beginning of the Shackleton crossing.

The Knoll	Not approved. The Committee felt that this name was too ambiguous and could be applied to numerous features in this region. The name James Nunatak was approved, in commemoration of the whaler the <i>James Caird</i> , which Shackleton used on his epic voyage from Elephant Island to South Georgia in 1916, and in conjunction with Caird Nunatak, which is at the end of the Shackleton crossing.
Razorback Ridge	Not approved. The Committee approved The Razorback instead, in conjunction with The Trident, which is close by.
Mount Sørlle	Not approved. It was agreed that the generic term 'peak' was more appropriate for this feature. Sørlle Peak was approved.
Turnback Glacier	Approved.

The Committee also approved the following names for other significant, unnamed features on the Shackleton crossing route:

Compass Glacier	Named after Worsley's compass that was used by Shackleton's party in 1916 to navigate across South Georgia.
Filchner Ridge	Named after Dr Wilhelm Filchner who, along with Johannes Müller, produced the South Georgia map used by Shackleton to make the crossing of South Georgia. The map was made during the German Antarctic Expedition (1911-12), which Filchner led.
Müller Ridge	Named after Johannes Müller who, along with Dr Wilhelm Filchner, produced the South Georgia map used by Shackleton to make the crossing of South Georgia. The map was made during the German Antarctic Expedition (1911-12), on which Müller was Second Officer and navigator.
Nineteen-sixteen Snowfield	Approved in commemoration of the year that Shackleton completed the crossing of South Georgia.

## 10. A.O.B.

### i) Amundsen place-name in BAT

There had been a previous proposal to the Committee to name a feature in BAT to commemorate Roald Amundsen [APC(12)12 and APC(13)02]. The Committee had decided that the proposed features were not significant enough to require naming, so the proposal was put on hold until an appropriate feature was located. Mr Headland has since suggested that a place-name at the location of Amundsen's first landing site in Antarctica could be appropriate. The Secretary will research this possibility and prepare proposal papers.

**ii) New UKHO charts**

Mr Willett informed the Committee that the UKHO has recently produced two new charts around South Georgia; one including the Stewart Strait and Bird Island, and the other for Cooper Sound and Drygalski Fjord.

**iii) Vacant *ad hoc* member position**

This was Dr Crosbie's final Committee meeting, as her second term as an *ad hoc* member ends in July this year. Dr Crosbie thanked the Committee for her time on the APC and said that she thought having *ad hoc* members on the Committee was a great opportunity. The Chairman thanked Dr Crosbie for her contributions to the APC and commented on the importance of having a representative of Antarctic tourism on the Committee.

**iv) Cabo Moneta**

Mr Headland reported that Cabo Moneta, an Argentine-named cape on Laurie Island, should be adopted into the BAT gazetteer.

**v) Bulgarian place-naming**

Dr Fox noted that the Bulgarian Antarctic Place-name Commission are the most active naming body in Antarctica, with 137 place names between 1 July 2012 and 30 June 2013 (the UK-APC approved 16 names in the same period) and have recently named 64 features in the Sentinel Range, Ellsworth Mountains.

**vi) Shackleton Centenary events**

Dr Chowdhury informed the Committee of some upcoming events to commemorate the Shackleton Centenary. In early 2015 the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution is undertaking another expedition to try to find *Endurance*, as part of 'The Ice Project' (ice-

shackletonmovie.com). This project also includes the production of a new feature film about the expedition.

**vii) Naming of undersea features**

Mr Willett enquired about the current APC policy on the naming of undersea features. He suggested that proposals and outcomes for undersea features should be shared with the GEBCO Sub-Committee on Undersea Feature Names (SCUFN) to make them aware of the proposed naming and perhaps allow them the chance to comment.

The next meeting will be at the British Antarctic Survey, at 11:00 on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> October 2014.

Meeting closed at 13:10.